

Appl No. 10/030,004
Reply to Office action of March 03, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A real-time interactive collaboration for radiation therapy treatment method for interactive medical treatment planning involving multiple participants using multiple treatment planning stations, comprising the steps of:

(a) establishing one of said treatment planning stations as a session controller and launching treatment planning software thereon;

(b) establishing a communication connection between said session controller treatment planning station and all of said treatment planning stations participating in a planning session; and

(c) displaying, on all participating treatment planning stations, treatment plan information being displayed on said session controller treatment planning station; and

(d) designating one of said treatment planning stations as an active controller, said active controller controlling manipulation of said treatment planning information,

wherein said active control of said treatment planning session is regulated by said session controller treatment planning station,

wherein step (d) comprises at least the steps of:

(e) generation of an active-control request by a treatment planning station;

(f) processing of said active-control request by said session controller treatment planning station; and

(g) authorizing or denying said active-control request by said session controller treatment planning station, wherein if said active-control request is granted, said treatment planning station generating said active-control request is given active control of said treatment planning session, and if said active-control request is denied, said treatment planning station generating said active-control request is denied active-control of said treatment planning session.

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wherein at least two of said treatment planning stations are located in geographically diverse locations,

wherein each of said treatment planning stations includes video conferencing capability,

wherein said method further comprises the step of:

(h) transmitting 3-D video and audio signals using said video conferencing capability of said treatment planning stations so that participants to said treatment planning session can see and hear the other participants in the session while the session is in progress,

wherein said treatment planning session is for planning radiation therapy and said participants in said treatment planning session include at least a dosimetrist and a radiation oncologist, each located at a geographically diverse location,

wherein said treatment planning stations are coupled to each other via a network connection,

wherein said network connection comprises the Internet,

wherein said network connection comprises the Next Generation Internet (NGI) or other high bandwidth connection,

wherein said manipulation of said treatment plan information includes at least one of contouring, rotating, or pointing at locations in images being displayed on said treatment planning stations and inputting treatment area and treatment dosage information into said treatment planning software.

Claims 2 – 11 (canceled)

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Claim 12 (currently amended): A real-time interactive collaboration system for radiation therapy treatment system for interactive medical treatment planning involving multiple participants using multiple treatment planning stations, the system comprising:

means for establishing one of said treatment planning stations as a session controller and launching treatment planning software thereon;

means for establishing a communication connection between said session controller treatment planning station and all of said treatment planning stations participating in a planning session; and

means for displaying, on all participating treatment planning stations, treatment plan information being displayed on said session controller treatment planning station; and

means for designating one of said treatment planning stations as an active controller, said active controller controlling manipulation of said treatment planning information,

wherein said active control of said treatment planning session is regulated by said session controller treatment planning station,

wherein designating means includes:

means for generation of an active-control request by a treatment planning station;

means for processing said active-control request by said session controller treatment planning station; and

means for authorizing or denying said active-control request by said session controller treatment planning station, wherein if said active-control request is granted, said treatment planning station generating said active-control request is given active control of said treatment planning session, and if said active-control request is denied, said treatment planning station generating said active-control request is denied active-control of said treatment planning session,

wherein at least two of said treatment planning stations are located in geographically diverse locations,

wherein each of said treatment planning stations includes video conferencing capability,

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wherein said method further includes means for transmitting 3-D video and audio signals using said video conferencing capability of said treatment planning stations so that participants to said treatment planning session can see and hear the other participants in the session while the session is in progress,

wherein said treatment planning session is for planning radiation therapy and said participants in said treatment planning session include at least a dosimetrist and a radiation oncologist, each located at a geographically diverse location,

wherein said treatment planning stations are coupled to each other via a network connection,

wherein said network connection comprises the Internet.

Claims 13 – 20 (canceled)